

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 00470 312055Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IO-13 /084 W
-----105434 010548Z /14

R 311831Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5555
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PIS, SHUM, NU
SUBJECT: STUDENT DEMONSTRATION DISPERSED

REF: MANAGUA 0449

1. SEVERAL HOURS AFTER THE NATIONAL GUARD BROKE UP A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION WITH TEAR GAS (REFTEL), A NATIONAL GUARD HELICOPTER DROPPED A DOZEN OR MORE TEAR GAS CANISTERS ON STUDENTS ON THE CAMPUS OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (7UNAN) IN MANAGUA. EARLIER IN THE DAY THERE WERE REPORTS OF STUDENTS PLACING BARRICADES ON THE ROAD LEADING TO THE CAMPUS. THE STUDENTS REPORTEDLY THREW ROCKS AT POLICE REMOVING THE BARRICADES AND THE POLICE RESPONDED WITH TEAR GAS. IN THE EVENING THERE WAS A FURTHER CONFRONTATION BETWEEN POLICE AND STUDENTS. A MISSION OFFICER LIVING NEAR THE CAMPUS SAW A GN HELICOPTER DROP ABOUT A DOZEN TEAR GAS CANISTERS ON GROUPS OF STUDENTS WITHIN THE CAMPUS. THOSE EVENING DISTURBANCES LASTED PERHAPS A HALF-HOUR. THERE WERE EARLIER REPORTS OF FURTHER STUDENT DISBURBANCES IN LEON HAVING BEEN DISPERSED BY THE GUARD BUT WE HAVE NO DETAILS.

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2. COMMENT: A U.S. NEWSMAN TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT HE ASKED PRESIDENT SOMOZA ABOUT THE GASSING OF THE WOMEN'S DEMONSTRATION AND SOMOZA REPLIED THAT WHEN PEOPLE BREAK THE LAW THEY HAVE TO PAY THE CONSEQUENCES. HE STATED THAT THEIR DEMONSTRATION WITHOUT A PERMIT WAS ILLEGAL. THE INCIDENT INVOLVING THE HELICOPTER IS THE FIRST CASE WE KNOW OF IN WHICH THE GUARD HAS TAKEN ACTION AGAINST STUDENTS WITHIN THE CAMPUS AND THE FIRST TIME THAT A HELICOPTER HAS BEEN USED FOR

SUCH PURPOSE.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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